



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/760,399	01/12/2001	Sadakazu Shiga	9281-3876	1754

7590 12/08/2003

Brinks Hofer Gilson & Lione
P.O. Box 10395
Chicago, IL 60610

EXAMINER

DU, THUAN N

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
----------	--------------

2185

DATE MAILED: 12/08/2003

5

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Page

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/760,399

Applicant(s)

SHIGA, SADAKAZU

Examiner

Thuan N. Du

Art Unit

2185

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 12 January 2001.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-6 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-6 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 12 January 2001 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application) since a specific reference was included in the first sentence of the specification or in an Application Data Sheet. 37 CFR 1.78.
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121 since a specific reference was included in the first sentence of the specification or in an Application Data Sheet. 37 CFR 1.78.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) 2,4.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

1. Claims 1-6 are presented for examination.
2. The title of the invention is not descriptive. A new title is required that is clearly indicative of the invention to which the claims are directed.

Claim Objections

3. Claim 4 is objected to because of the following informalities: the claim recites the phrase "a predetermined signal" in line 2. It is unclear whether the signal is the same as the signal recited in claims 2 and 3 or another signal. For further examination, the examiner considers the predetermined signal recited in claim 4 is the same as the predetermined signal recited in claims 2 and 3. Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

4. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent, or on an international application by another who has fulfilled the requirements of paragraphs (1), (2), and (4) of section 371(c) of this title before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent.

The changes made to 35 U.S.C. 102(e) by the American Inventors Protection Act of 1999 (AIPA) and the Intellectual Property and High Technology Technical Amendments Act of 2002 do not apply when the reference is a U.S. patent resulting directly or indirectly from an

Art Unit: 2185

international application filed before November 29, 2000. Therefore, the prior art date of the reference is determined under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) prior to the amendment by the AIPA (pre-AIPA 35 U.S.C. 102(e)).

5. Claims 1-3 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Wang (U.S. Patent No. 6,041,413).

6. **Regarding claim 1**, Wang teaches a computer system comprising:

a computer equipped with a signal control section [Fig. 2, KBCI 12; col. 4, lines 2-3];

an input unit for this computer [Fig. 2, KB 20; col. 4, line 4];

a communicative connecting unit for connecting the computer and input unit [Fig. 2, the connection between KBCI 12 and KB 20; col. 4, lines 13-15];

a main power unit for supplying power to the computer and input unit [Fig. 2, PSU 30; col. 4, line 48];

an auxiliary power unit (5VSB) for supplying power to the computer and input unit when the main power unit is off [col. 5, lines 1-4; col. 6, lines 4-6];

a power supply startup unit (controller 40), provided within the computer, for supplying a startup signal to the main power unit [col. 5, lines 24-26]; and

a line switching unit (controller 40) [col. 5, lines 53-56] for connecting, when the main power unit is on [col. 5, lines 61-62], the communicative connecting unit between the input unit and the signal control section [col. 5, lines 63-66] and, when the main power unit is off [col. 5, lines 56-57], switching the communicative connecting unit to connection between the input unit and power supply startup unit [col. 5, lines 57-61].

Art Unit: 2185

7. **Regarding claim 2**, Wang teaches that the main power unit of the computer is started up upon supply of a predetermined signal from the input unit to the power supply startup unit when the main power unit is off [col. 5, lines 12-18].

8. **Regarding claim 3**, Wang teaches that the input unit has a plurality of input keys [col. 5, lines 10-11], and the predetermined signal is issued when one or more specific key or keys are operated [col. 5, lines 10-12, 59-61].

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

9. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

10. Claim 4 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Wang (U.S. Patent No. 6,041,413) [hereinafter Wang413] in view of Wang (U.S. Patent No. 6,275,947) [hereinafter Wang947].

11. **Regarding claim 4**, Wang413 does not explicitly teach the predetermined signal provided from the input unit to the power supply startup unit is a resume signal supplied a plurality of times.

Wang947 teaches a system for waking up or turning on computer via a peripheral device [col. 4, lines 31-39] including a resume signal provided from the peripheral device for waking up the computer [col. 4, lines 52-65]. The signal could be supplied a plurality of times if the value of the signal is not equal to a default value [col. 4, lines 56-60].

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine the teachings of Wang413 and Wang947 because they both teach system for controlling computer power supply by a peripheral device. Wang947's teaching of sending either power on or wake up signal from the peripheral device to turn on or resume the computer, depending on the state of the computer, would increase the flexibility of Wang413's system by allowing the system not only can be turned on but also can be waked up via a peripheral device (i.e. keyboard).

12. Claims 5 and 6 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Wang (U.S. Patent No. 6,041,413) and Gudan et al. [Gudan] (U.S. Patent No. 6,256,682).

13. **Regarding claim 5**, Wang does not explicitly teach the communicative connecting unit is a USB interface.

Gudan teaches a system for controlling the supply of power to a computer using a peripheral device (keyboard) [abstract], wherein the communicative connecting unit (bus interface 112) for connecting the keyboard and the computer is a USB bus [col. 3, lines 2-4; col. 4, lines 59-60].

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine the teachings of Wang and Gudan because they both teach system for controlling computer power supply using a computer keyboard. Gudan's teaching of using USB keyboard, connected through USB bus, would increase the flexibility of Wang's system by allowing additional device(s) (USB device) can be conveniently connected to the system through USB keyboard.

Art Unit: 2185

14. **Regarding claim 6**, Wang does not explicitly teach the line switching unit constituted of a relay or an analog switch.

Gudan teaches the use of a relay [switch 312; col. 3, lines 39-40] for switching the main power on/off depends on user input [col. 3, line 67 to col. 4, line 2].

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine the teachings of Wang and Gudan because they both teaching of system for controlling main power source using a computer keyboard. Gudan's teaching of a mechanical switch to perform the switching task would increase the flexibility of Wang's system by allowing the switching task can perform not only by software or firmware but also by hardware.

Conclusion

15. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Thuan N. Du whose telephone number is (703) 308-6292 or via e-mail, **thuan.du@uspto.gov**. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday: 9:00 AM - 5:30 PM, EST.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Thomas C. Lee can be reached on (703) 305-9717.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-3900.

Any response to this action should be mailed to:

Application/Control Number: 09/760,399

Page 7

Art Unit: 2185

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office
P.O. Box 2327
Arlington, VA 22202.

The fax number for the organization is (703) 872-9306.

Hand-delivered responses should be brought to:

Crystal Park II
2121 Crystal Drive
Arlington, VA 22202
Fourth Floor (Receptionist).

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Thuan N. Du', with a stylized, flowing script.

Thuan N. Du
December 1, 2003